

ABSTRACT

A system and method of allocating financial and functional responsibilities of joint-use local access facilities, that are provided by and to telecommunications service providers is described. Service providers disclose their local access service requirements 5 to an administrator who has responsibility for collecting the data and releasing it only in aggregated form that protects the proprietary interests of the disclosing parties. In addition, a system and method is provided to assign a status to each of the participating telecommunications service providers, in which each of them will, at various times, serve the other participants as either a serving party or a purchasing party, with specific 10 responsibilities in each case. When a telecommunications service provider functions as the serving party, it provides certain specific services under terms and conditions, and according to certain technical specifications, that are set forth as part of the system and methods that are disclosed. When a participating telecommunications service provider functions as a purchasing party, it adheres to certain routinized processes for ordering 15 service and submitting payment, all according to pre-determined terms and conditions that are disclosed. Methods for solving problems and settling disputes between the participants are also described.